## THE DAY IN CONGRESS

Tariff Debate Formally Opened in the House.

ARBITRATION IN THE SENATE.

All the Amendments Recommended by the Committee on Foreign Relations Agreed to by the Senate Without a Division—Long Executive Session—Troubles of American Planters in Cuba.

WASHINGTON, March 28 .- The first day of the tariff debate in the house was rather tame from both a spectacular and an oratorical standpoint. The galleries were well filled all day and the members on the floor listened conscientiously, but there was an absence both of that sharp crossfiring which putes. keeps the nerves on edge and that brilliant eloquence which inspires and holds the imagination. The opening of the debate was delayed over two hours by the full reading of the bill of 162 pages and this, to begin with, had a somewhat depressing influence. The Republican leaders insisted on this to avoid the possible objection in the future should the consideration of the bill not be completed under the five minute rule, that the bill was never read in full in the house, a thing which happened in the cases of both the Mc-Kinley and Wilson bills. Only four speeches were made at the day session, Mr. Dingley, the chairman of the ways and means, opened in an hour's speech for the majority, and Mr. Wheeler of Alabama fired the broadside for the op-

The Democratic plan miscarried. Mr. Bailey, leader of the opposition, had decided to close the debate, and Mr. Mc-Millin of Tennessee had been selected to reply to Mr. Dingley, but at the last moment it was learned that Mr. Mc-Millin had been unable to prepare himself, owing to the illness of his wife. The task, therefore, devolved on Mr. Wheeler. The latter was unprepared, but nevertheless took the floor for an hour. Mr. Bell of Colorado blazed the path for the Populists. The only other speaker at the day session was Mr. Hopkins of Illinois, a member of the ways and means. Today it is probable that some of the house orators will be heard.

SENATE REPORT.

Brief Open Session—Arbitration Treaty Considered in the Afternoon.

Washington, March 23.—The senate yesterday agreed to a resolution requesting the president for information relative to the imprisonment and death of Dr. Ruiz in Cuba. Beyond this the brief session, lasting for 40 minutes, was devoted to the presentation of bills and reports. Among the reports was that on the Lodge bill restricting immigration by an educational qualification.

Mr. Pettigrew of South Dakota reported the bill for free homes on the public lands, and gave notice that he would endeavor to secure action at the earliest possible moment. Several other bills relating to Indian affairs and public lands were reported and placed on the calendar.

Among the bills introduced were those by Mr. Hanna of Ohio for a public building at Cleveland and by Mr. Chandler of New Hampshire for the exclusion of alien anarchists.

The introduction of Mr. Hanna's bill was the first business he brought before the senate.

House resolution was agreed to continuing the joint committee investigating the use of alcohol in the arts, etc.

At 12:40 p. m., on motion of Mr.

Frye (Rep., Me.) the senate went into

executive session and at 5:35 adjourned. The Anglo-American arbitration treaty was advanced considerably toward final ratification by the senate yesterday, and before the long executive session closed all the amendments recommended by the committee on foreign relations were agreed to without division. These amendments are:

First—To provide that all agreements for arbitration entered into by the executive branch of this government with the British government shall be subject to the ratification of the senate.

Second—Striking out the provision constituting members of the United States supreme court permanent members of the proposed tribunal of arbitra-

Third—Eliminating the provision for an umpire and therefore striking out the provision agreeing upon King Oscar of Sweden and Norway for this office.

The principle debate of the day arose on an amendment to the committee amendment in regard to the supreme court, offered by Senator Morgan and it was upon this amendment that the only aye and nay votes occurred. Senator Morgan moved to strike out the words, "jurists of repute," which the committee proposed to substitute at the points where justices of the United States supreme court were mentioned in Articles 3 and 6 of the treaty. The debate was participated in on the one side by Senator Morgan and on the other by Senators Davis and Lodge, who opposed the motion.

On the rollcall on the amendment to Article 3 the vote was 19 to 25 and on that to Article 6 it was 24 to 26. The reason for the increased vote on the second proposition was the belief on the part of some senators that as the article in regard to territorial claims provides that some of the British members of the arbitral tribunal shall be members of the supreme court of judicature of Great Britain the American supreme court should also be recognized to act in the same capacity.

same capacity.

With the committee amendments dis-

posed of individual senators were recognized to suggest amendments. One of these, presented by Senator Mason,

of these, presented by Senator Mason, provided that all members of the board of arbitration should be American born citizens. This was promptly and without debate laid on the table on the motion of Senator Nelson. Senator Foraker also suggested an amendment providing for a separate tribunal for the settlement of each question as it might a ise under the treaty. This amendment was not reached in the discussion, but Senator Bacon said that if it could be adopted he would feel justified in withdrawing his amendment eliminating the claims against southern states from operation of the treaty.

An amendment offered by Senator Chilton provoked some very spirited speeches toward the close of the day's session. This amendment provides that the senate shall decide in each case what matter shall be submitted to arbitration and declares for the principle of arbitration in settling all international discrete.

The amendment was attacked as be ing calculated to rob the treaty of its distinctive characteristics, and it was asserted that if accepted it would leave the agreement a mere shell of its former self, possessing neither vitality nor character. In this connection Senator Hoar made an able and eloquent speech in favor of the treaty. In its peroration he spoke of the horrors of war and made especial reference to those of the late war. Around him he said, were men who had secured reputations in the battles for the Union. That war was for principle, such as all wars should be. Wars of such a character that the young bride gave up her husband and the widowed mother her only son in defense of principle should be welcomed.

Senator Stewart followed in the same patriotic vein, but in opposition to the

Senator Chilton spoke in behalf of his amendment requiring all agreements made to be subject to ratification by the senate.

There was some discussion of the Monroe doctrine, and Senator Morgan took the floor to address the senate on this phase of the treaty, then the senate adjourned.

DELICATE QUESTION.

That of Settling the Troubles of American Planters in Cuba.

Washington, March 23.—A question has risen as to our Cuban relations that will require delicate treatment in order to avoid working harm to many Americans. About a year ago the Spanish government by decree suspended the right of creditors to collect debts, in order to avert the threatened ruin of the planters. This action was made the subject of energetic protest by a number of American capitalists, mostly resident in the north, who held Cuban mortgages and other securities and thus saw themselves cut off from their rightful interest.

The state department was obliged to mangled condition. make this decree the basis of a formal dissent, thus saving the right to prefer claims for damages later on. Now the decree has expired and the laws for the collection of debt again become operative and there is another protest, this time from the American planters in Cuba and their financial backers, who, having been obliged to stop sugar growing and cane grinding by orders of both Spanish and insurgents, now see themselves threatened with loss of all their property through foreclosure. The point s that if our government protests against this last phase of the case the first protest will lose force, while if it fails to do so, great hardship will fol-

YESTERDAY'S NOMINATIONS.

Three Important Positions in the Departments Filled.

WASHINGTON, March 23.—The presi-

dent has sent the following nominations to the senate:

Joseph L. Bristow of Kansas to be

fourth assistant postmaster general.

Binger Hermann of Oregon to be commissioner of the general land office.

James D. Elliott of South Dakota to be attorney of the United States for the

district of South Dakota.

Earnest G. Timme of Wisconsin to be auditor for the state and other depart-

ments (fifth auditor.)
Commodore Joseph N. Miller, to be rear admiral.

Nominations Confirmed.

Washington, March 23.—The senate in executive session has confirmed the nomination of Powell Clayton of Arkansas to be minister to Mexico; W. M. Osborne of Massachusetts to be consul general at London; J. K. Gowdy of Indiana to be consul general at Paris; Joseph H. Brigham of Ohio to be assistant secretary of agriculture; Sylvester Peterson of Ada, Minn., to be register of the land office at Crookston, Minn.; Major H. H. C. Dunwoody to be lieutenant colonel signal corps; Commander C. V. Gridley to be a captain in the navy, also some minor naval promotions; H. L. Marindin, an assistant in the United States survey, to be a member of the Mississippi river commission.

Gas Explosion Victims.

TAMAQUE, Pa., March 23.—By an explosion of gas in No. 11 mines yesterday afternoon two men were fatally and a number of others seriously injured. The men were working in a breast when a fall of coal brought with it a large volume of gas. The body of gas ignited from the lamps and a terrific explosion followed.

New Yor, March 23.—Another bo t of the St. N zaire was picked up by tie of steamer Cre e, which arrived yesterday from New Creans. Six dead bodies only were in the boot.

Can side of the Atlantic in the American side of the Atlantic in the event of a great war. Most of England's food supplies came from America. It was very improbable that the United States

## CYCLONE IN GEORGIA

School Building Dashed to Pieces and Inmates Killed.

WILL PROVE FATAL TO A SCORE.

Nearly Every Home in the Community
Blighted by the Storm's Cruel Work,
Thirty-Five Children and Two Teachers
Go Down in the Wreck of the Building-Business Part of the Town Escapes,
ARLINGTON, Ga., March 23.—Every
heart in Calhoun county is wrung with
anguish today.

An awful cyclone swept down upon this little place yesterday and accomplished a work of horror that has only been paralleled in the famous Johnstown disaster.

The bodies of eight children have been taken from the ruins of the Arlington academy and about a dozen others will die.

Thirty-five children and two teachers went down in the wreck of the building and the work of removing the dead and injured is not yet completed. The

scene is heartrending.

The Arlington academy, a fine structure, lay directly in the path of the storm. It was knocked into a great heap and the work of death was done even before the danger was realized. The structure was smasked into kinddling wood, and the broken timbers and dead bodies mixed together in sickening confusion.

The death list so far as known is:

Alice Putnam.
Claude Roberts.
Ollie Paramore.
Willie McMurria.
Genie But.er.
Maud Johnson.
Mary Wel.ons.
Kenneth Foynton.
The wounded are:
Ernest We'lons. lez

Ernest We'lons, leg broken.

Dudley Killebrew, both legs broken.

Professor W. A. Covington, internal
injuries; will die.

Alton Carter, 12g broken.

Ethel Carter, internal injuries; will die. Ben McMurray, head crushed; will

die.

Bettie Farramore, arm broken and

hurt internally.

Nola Roberts, shoulders dislocated.

Simon Sanders, leg broken, hurt internally; wildie.

George kiley, arm broken, hurt internally.

Clara Thighpen, arms broken, hurt internally; will die.

"The scenes around the building were most heartrending, as mothers clasped the forms of their loved children in their arms, heeding not their bloody and mangled condition.

The rain began to pour in torrents as soon as the wind passed off and the 500 people were drenched to the skin while clearing away the wreck. Some remarkable escapes were re-

lated. One little girl, almost suffocated to death for want of air, was lying under three of her dead companions, whose bodies had formed a buffer, which saved her from the severity of the blows of falling debris.

The two teachers, Professors Coving-ton and Walker have been recovered.

ton and Walker, have been removed from the ruins and they are terribly hurt. Walker, it is thought, will die. The list of the injured can not yet be definitely made up. People have not recovered from the

People have not recovered from the awful horror of the disaster. Nearly every home in the community has been blighted by the storm's cruel work. Men and women stand about wringing their hands and weeping for their children so ruthlessly and horribly snatched from them.

It is a blow straight to the heart of the community and sorrow has come like a pall over the community.

The storm also wrecked the residence of W. D. Cowdry, and the new residence of Dr. W. E. Saunders, just completed. No one was hurt in these places.

There is no news of a definite nature from the outlying districts in the path of the storm, but the damage, no doubt, is very great.

Blakeley's physicians came over at 10 o'clock to help care for the wounded.

The academy had been built-only two years since and was a handsome two-story structure.

The storm missed the business part of the town only about 500 yards.

WHY FORTIFY BERMUDA?

England's Troubles With America Are to
Be Settled by Arbitration.

LONDON, March 23.—The house of

commons sat in committee several hours yesterday on the military works bill. When the clause referring to fortifications in the Bermudas was under consideration, John Dillon, leader of the Irish Nationalists, said that in view of the fact that a treaty of peace and arbitration had virtually been concluded between Great Britain and the United States he must protest against a proposal of large expenditure upon fortification at the very door of the United States. He would not say they were to be erected with a hostile intention, but they were at any rate intended as defences, and he would advise the United States to watch very carefully the erection of fortifications in the Bermudas. Sir Charles Dilke, member for the Forest of Dean, replied that fortified ecaling stations would be an absolute necessity to Great Britain on the Amerwould ever be opposed in war to England, and the use of the Bermudas as a basis of British naval operations on the American side of the Atlantic was in no sense whatever directed against the United States.

The bill was finally reported to the house without amendment.

RUSSIA PUTS UP THE BARS.

Timely Action Taken Against the Spread
of the Bubonic Plague.

Washington, March 23.—The Russian government, according to United States Consul General Karel at St. Petersburg, is acting with vigor to prevent the spread of the dreaded bubonic plague into Russia. A sanitary commission has been created with a fund of 100,000 roubles to draw upon, and it has added these new measures of precaution to the existing regulations:

First—To send an expedition of medical men to India to investigate the causes and effects of the plague.

Second—To prohibit for this year the pilgrimage of Russian Mussulmans to Mecca or to other places where the Shities are wont to resort for devotional purposes, and to forbid Russian Christians visiting the holy places of the

Third—To prepare and have in readiness a sufficient quantity of Dr. Jersens anti-plague whey.

Fourth—To send to threatened localities an ample medical staff and medicines to assist the local authorities in resisting the plague.

sisting the plague.

Fifth—To publish in the official newspapers full accounts of the progress of the disease and the workings of the preventive measures.

ventive measures.

It was reported that several Indians who had come to Afghanistan had died at Kandagar last December; in consequence the Russian and Persian governments have established military cordons on the Afghan frontier and cut off intercourse, though there have been no additional cases reported.

WILLIAM THE FIRST.

All Germany Does Honor to the Memory of the Beloved Ruler.

Berlin, March 23.—United Germany he'd a fete yesterday in honor of the centenary or 100th anniversary of the birth of the late Emperor Wilhelm I. Business of all kinds was generally suspended throughout the empire, and in towns and villages alike the authorities arranged appropriate exercises in memory of the great ruler, these being followed by banquets for the older folk and festivities for the younger.

In this city the anniversary was signalized by the unveiling by the emperor of the national monument to "William the Great" on the grounds near the schloss. The event was preceded by a grand parade. The windows of the residences commanding the scene were packed with members of the aristocracy, who had paid enormous prices for points mansion in an advantageous location commanded 8,000 marks, or nearly \$2. 000, while the ruling figure for single windows was 800 marks and for single seats 200 marks. The Kings of Wurtemberg and Saxony, the Grand Duke of Baden and the prince regent of Bavaria were present at the exercises, which were of an imposing nature. In the afternoon there was an entertainment at the Imperial Opera House, who a historic drama by Wilderbruch, entaged "William the German," with special music by Hummel, presented for the

first time.
CHICAGO BEER BOYCOTTED.

The Federation of Labor Takes Up the

Chicago beer has been declared by the Chicago Federation of Labor at its regular weekly meeting. A gigantic boycott, in which all organized labor will be urged to unite, was launched against the product of all breweries that are members of the Chicago Brewers' association and will take effect April 1. Men who wish to drink beer will be expected to buy the product of outside breweries and refuse to patronize any saloon supplied by any of the 70 members of the 'rewers' combine.

bers of the 'rewers' combine.

Grievances of Coopers' Union No.1 against the local brewers precipitated the action of the federation. John Mc-Pherson, the delegate from the coopers, who was present at the meeting, explained to the federation that the coopers had vainly tried for a year to induce the brewers to use barrels and kegs made by union workmen and now asked that decisive measures be taken at once to force the manufacturers to comply or to place their product under the ban of united labor. The sentiment of the labor men was for battle.

An Old Soldier Drowned.

Piqua, O., March 23.—David M. Sullenberger, aged 61 years, and a veteran of the late war, who has been missing from his home since Saturday afternoon, was drowned. His body was discovered fl ating in the hydraulic a short distance from his home by his sons, who were searching for him. How he got in the stream is not known. There was a gash in his head that looked suspicious, but the finding of the money on his person destroyed the theory of foul play. A large family is left whose circumstances are only moderate.

Sioux Falls, March 23.—The Big Sioux river is higher today than it was during the flood of 1881. Twelve bridges have been swept away near here. At West Sioux Falls the river is a mile wide, the bottoms being covered to a depth of three feet. An immense gorge of ice has formed above the city and is slowly coming toward town. But little ice has gone out of the river.

## FATHER OF WATERS

Continues His Tour of Devastation Through the South.

MANY VICTIMS OF THE FLOOD.

The River Falling Slowly at Memphis, Owing to Breaks in the Levees Above, but Is Rising at All Points Below—Government Relief Extended—Situation Improving at Cairo.

MEMPHIS, March 23.-The river continues to fall slowly at Memphis, the gauge last night registering a fraction under 37 feet, a fall of about an inch in 48 hours, but the decline of the water at this point is due to the breaks in the levee at Caruthersville, Mo., and Sans Souci, Ark. The railroad situation shows a decided improvement. Assistant General Passenger Agent Scott of the Illinois Central railroad announces that traffic on his lines has been resumed and all trains on the entire Illinois Central system are again running on time. The Yazoo and Mississippi Valley rail-road has also been opened and is running its trains promptly on schedule time. The Iron Mountain still remains above water on the west side of the

Two negroes are reported to have been drowned yesterday at Horn lake, a few miles south of this city.

News comes in of the drowning of a family of eight persons in Henry county, Ala. Richard Manson, with his wife and six children, lived in a cabin on the river bank at the crossing of the Central railroad from Columbia. The water rushed in, surrounding the cabin. In vain efforts to extricate themselves all were lost.

The fact that the rise continues at Cairo and other points not affected by the Caruthersville break is sufficient basis for the conclusion that the present slight drop here is not indicative that the beginning of the end of the flood is at hand.

At Cairo, Helena, Arkansas City, Greenville and Vicksburg there has been a steady rise since Saturday morning and at all these points the river is

far above danger line.
At points below Vicksburg the rise continues slowly and steadily. The outlook, both as to the condition of the country and the refugees, remains about the same. The relief boats bring in daily their loads of destitute people to be housed, cared for and fed by Memphis people with whatever assistance may come from those outside this city. Besides the people that must be cared for, there is the stock, too, which has been saved from starvation. The owners, having no means to feed themselves, can not feed the horses and mules, without which they will be powerless to make a crop after the waters subside. The members of the local relief committee have more than they can do in the work of distributing rations and providing quarters for refu-

gees.
Yesterday Mayor Clapp received the following telegram from Secretary of War Alger in response to request:

War Alger in response to request:

"Have telegraphed quartermaster at
St. Louis to ship you all flood sufferers'
tents with poles and pins on hand."

Australia, Miss., just west of Deesom station, is in a very critical condition. The water has been pouring through a hole in the levee for several days and last night it increased in volume to such an alarming extent that Major Sterling, chief engineer, was wired for at Greenville to come and bring 20,000 sacks. Major Sterling with the sacks of sand left Greenville on a special train at 7:30, picking up over 200 workmen en route. The effects of the rise in the Arkansas and White rivers is being felt here, the river at this point rising 10 inches in the past 24 hours.

A dispatch to The Commercial-Appeal from Cairo, Ills., says:

The situation here is steadily improving. The gauge reads 51.10 feet, a rise of three-tenths in the past 24 hours. The weather bureau announces that the river will come to a stand today and will probably fall. Cairo's second relief expedition started for the flood-stricken district in Missouri yesterday afternoon on the government boat Minnetonka. A large supply of provisions were taken down. A dispatch from the first expedition on the Vidalia states that they rescued 17 people and 100 head of stock near Donaldson Point, 55 miles below here

55 miles below here.

The New South, which has arrived from below, reports a break in the levee at Cottonwood Point and another at the head of Chute 16, near Caruthersville.

Three Flood Victims.

La Crosse, Wis., March 23.—The first fatality as a result of the floods in this section occurred Sunday night in Lews valley, a few miles from this place. Barnard Koch, his wife and brother-in-law, John Herman, were the victims. The three were driving east of Bangor when they encountered a rapid freshet caused by the rain and melting snow. Koch endeavored to turn and in so doing the wagon capsized and the occupants were thrown into the swiftly running stream and all three were drowned.

CRITICAL

Becomes the Situation at Malaxa, Crete.

Land Blockade Threstened.

Canea, March 23.—The situation at Malaxa has become critical. The garrison has provisions for two days only, and if the insurgents capture the forts Malaxa, Keratidi and Canea will be virtually blockaded from the land side. Fighting at Malaxa ceased at about 5 o'clock last evening. The Turks failed to revictual the fort. They had many wounded and 10 killed.